

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Prussian State)

DATE DISTR: 27 November 195

SUBJECT Interruption of Construction Work on Road
Bridges because of Shortage of Cement

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On 24 August 1951, the government of Land Mecklenburg notified all agencies concerned that all stocks of cement and crushed stones were to be requisitioned immediately. Effective 24 August, construction of the road bridges near Rodefin on the secondary roads and on the bridges near Iehsen on the secondary roads was discontinued. All construction machinery and construction personnel were withdrawn from the construction sites. Effective 1 September 1951, construction of the road bridges near Sanzhow, Neuhaus and Mecklenburg-Dorf was discontinued. The Bauunion Schwerin in Mecklenburg had the contracts for these projects. The 459 tons of cement required to complete the work cannot be procured in the near future in spite of urgent requests of the Directorate General, Motor Traffic and Roads to the Ministry for Materials Supply. The bridges on which work was discontinued, were previously listed as projects that had to be completed by late 1951. [redacted] the situation was similar in Land Brandenburg and believed that the shortage of cement was caused by military projects which were given priority.

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Following bridges in Land Brandenburg, which, according to an order of the GOC, were originally to be completed in the course of 1951, was to cease immediately: 25X1

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- a. Road bridge in Frankfurt/Oder on national highway No 5, being built by the Bauunion Dresden. A total of 2,400 tons of cement is required.
- b. Road bridge Bierweg, a reinforced girder bridge, being built by the Bauunion Berlin. A total of 240 tons of cement is required.
- c. Bridge in Eberswalde across the Pinow Canal, a steel plate girder structure, which was scheduled for completion in 1950. A total of 75 tons of cement is required.
- d. Road bridge near Wismenspalterren, across the Pinow Canal, a steel plate girder structure, being built by the Bauunion Berlin. The bridge is in the Eberswalde industrial area. A total of 60 tons of cement is required.
- e. Road bridge in Nieder-Pinow, being built by the Bauunion Berlin. A total of 50 tons of cement is required. The construction of the bridge is an urgent project, since shipping on the Pinow Canal is hampered by the existing temporary bridge.

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- f. Road bridge near Finkenheerd, being built by the Bauunion Fuerstenberg. A total of 40 tons of cement is required. The bridge is important for the Foundry Combine East near Fuerstenberg/Oder.
- g. Road bridge near Alt-Schadow, steel plate girder structure, being built by the Bauunion Cottbus. A total of 40 tons of cement is required. The bridge is of great importance since it is the only one across the Sprée River in this area.
- h. Road bridge near Musterhausen, a steel plate girder structure being built by the Bauunion Waren. A total of 75 tons of cement is required. The bridge is the only one across the Dosse River in this area.
- i. Road bridge near ~~Booszen~~, a reinforced concrete girder structure being built by the Bauunion Berlin. A total of 90 tons of cement is required. The bridge is important for the Foundry Combine East near Fuerstenberg/Oder.

[] construction machines and construction workers have already been withdrawn from the construction sites.

- 3. Bridges in Land Saxony, construction work on which had to be suspended because of shortage of cement and crushed rock included:
 - a. The autobahn bridge across the Elbe River in Dresden, a reinforced concrete girder structure being built by a nationalized construction firm in Dresden.
 - b. Bridge in Rangiersdorf on national highway No 115, a steel plate girder structure being built by the Bauunion Neupersdorf. A total of 70 tons of cement is required.
 - c. Bridge in Weichteritz on national highway No 169 built by the Bauunion Dresden. A total of 60 tons of cement is required.
 - d. Bridge in the course of a category I road in Kleinsaubernitz being built by the Bauunion Bautzen. A total of 65 tons of cement is required.
 - e. Bridge in Grossdeuben and Boehlen on category I road No 209, being built by the Bauunion Leipzig. A total of 110 tons of cement is required.
 - f. Bridge in Klein-Radmeritz on category II road No 20, being built by a nationalized construction firm in Loebau. A total of 60 tons of cement is required.

Except for the bridge in Dresden, the temporary bridges previously at the sites of the projected bridges have been dismantled. Traffic must therefore be rerouted over poor roads and bridges with inadequate load capacities.*

- * [] Comment. The interruption of construction on road bridges in Laender Thuringia and Saxony-Anhalt was reported previously. [] The present report shows that the three other Laender of the Zone were also forced to suspend their road bridge construction because of shortage of cement. Cement deliveries to the U.S.S.R. and Poland continue in the previous large quantities.

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